

ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT
22 November 1985

FILE ONLY

7:00 PM

Accused Spy Arrested

BROKAW: Federal officials are saying tonight that Navy employee Jonathan Pollard has admitted that he was paid almost \$50,000 for American military secrets he supplied to Israel. And Israel apparently was not his only customer. He was arrested yesterday outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington. NBC's Jim Miklaszewski reports tonight that he almost got away.

JIM MIKLASZEWSKI: Jonathan Pollard had top secret clearance at the Naval Intelligence Service since May, 1984. That's when he's alleged to have started selling secrets to the Israelis for \$2,500 a month, \$45,000 total for a year and a half. The Navy is now trying to determine the extent of damage from this latest spy scandal.

Pollard's field was counter-terrorism. Defense officials

say Pollard also would have had access to military intelligence for such moderate Arab states as Egypt and Jordan and information on Soviet activities and intentions in the Middle East. There is evidence Pollard may also have sold some secrets to Pakistan.

Defense officials describe Pollard as a near genius, with strong pro-Israeli sentiments. Sources tell NBC News that Pollard almost got away. The FBI had questioned him Wednesday, but, after he offered to lead them to other possible suspects, let him go.

Thursday, Pollard bolted and attempted to seek political asylum at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. It was then he was arrested and charged with espionage.

The State Department appeared to condemn such activity.

CHARLES REDMAN: We are shocked and saddened at the notion that something like this might occur. We've been in touch with the Israelis to try to get to the bottom of this.

MIKLASZEWSKI: The U. S. has told the Israelis we expect their full cooperation across the board and a return of any stolen documents. Intelligence sources say that information could include the identity of any U. S. spies operating in Israel.

Jim Miklaszewski, NBC News, the Pentagon.